

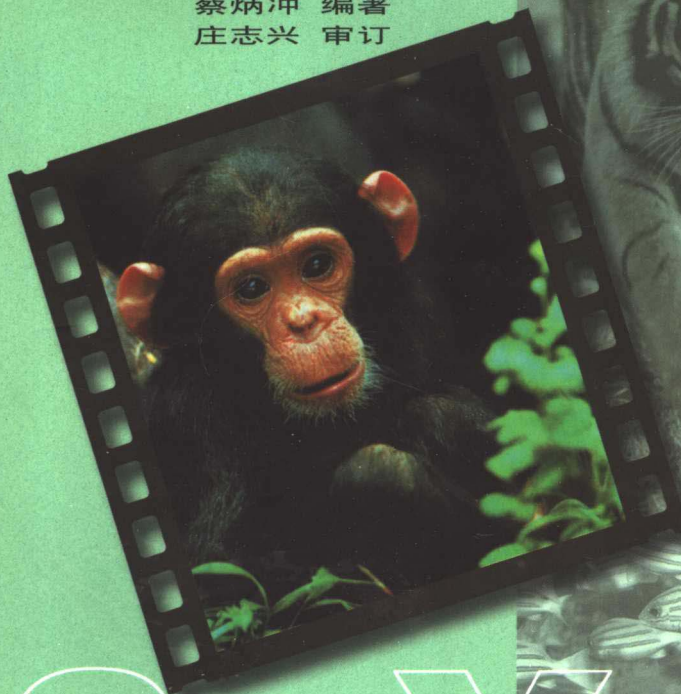
新视野 英语阅读丛书

走近自然

To Natural World

蔡炳冲 编著

庄志兴 审订



4:Q

3+X

苏州大学出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

走近自然: 英文/蔡炳冲编著. —苏州: 苏州大学出版社, 2000.8

(新视野英语阅读丛书)

ISBN 7-81037-640-3

I. 走… II. 蔡… III. ①英语-语言读物, 植物
②英语-语言读物, 动物 IV. H319.4: Q

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2000)第 17953 号

走近自然

蔡炳冲 编著

责任编辑 何其捷

苏州大学出版社出版发行

(地址: 苏州市十梓街 1 号 邮编: 215006)

丹阳教育印刷厂印装

(地址: 丹阳市西门外 邮编: 212300)

开本 850×1168 1/32 印张 8.625 字数 215 千

2000 年 8 月第 1 版 2000 年 8 月第 1 次印刷

印数 1-10000 册

ISBN 7-81037-640-3/H·43 定价: 10.00 元

苏州大学版图书若有印装错误, 本社负责调换

苏州大学出版社发行科 电话: 0512-5236943

前 言

《新视野英语阅读丛书》以高中学生为主要读者对象,以开拓视野、增长知识、提高英语阅读能力为宗旨,以创特色、出精品、瞄准高考、服务教学为目标,特邀著名重点中学一线教师及英语学科带头人精心策划和编著。

本丛书首推 4 本:

《走近名人》“走近”百位世界名人,阅览他们的为人、个性、兴趣、爱好以及鲜为人知的趣闻轶事。

《走近名城》“走近”百座世界名城,游览旖旎的城市风光、典雅的名胜古迹以及奇异的风土人情。

《走近自然》“走近”百种珍稀动植物,饱览其特有的生活习性、生长过程以及与人 and 自然的关系。

《走近科学》“走近”科学,博览百篇科普读物,让读者徜徉于科学知识的海洋,激发其爱科学、学科学、用科学的热情,培养创新意识和创造能力。

本丛书所选材料均来自海内外文献资料,语言地道,内容健康,趣味隽永。其难度与现行高中新教材相当,生词量控制在 3% 左右,个别生词未加注中文,旨在培养读者通过上下文推测词义的能力。阅读理解题型与 NMET 标准化考试完全吻合,考查内容兼顾表层、深层和整体理解三个层次,因而十分适合高中各年级及相当于此程度的英语学习者使用,尤其对参加会考、高考的学生进行针对性英语阅读训练与模拟检测更有裨益。

本丛书全部书稿承蒙澳大利亚英语教育专家 Melanie Ruchel 博士亲自审阅和福建中学英语报社庄志兴总编辑亲自审订,谨致谢忱。

I feel that every book opens before me a window through which I see an unthinkable new world when the book tells me about never-heard-of and never-seen characters, sentiment, ideas and attitudes.

—Gorky

我觉得,当书本给我讲到闻所未闻、见所未见的人物、感情、思想和态度的时候,似乎是每一本书都在我面前打开了一扇窗户,让我看到一个不可思议的新世界。

——高尔基

Contents

1. A Hawk	(1)
2. Air	(2)
3. Algae	(4)
4. An Ape	(5)
5. Animals and Aestivation	(7)
6. Animals and Men	(10)
7. Animals and Their Languages	(12)
8. Animals and Their Partners	(14)
9. Animals Can Be Made to Work for Men	(16)
10. Antarctica (I)	(18)
11. Antarctica (II)	(20)
12. Amoebas	(21)
13. Appearance of <i>EL Niño</i>	(23)
14. Apple Trees	(25)
15. A Tornado	(26)
16. A Trained Dog	(28)
17. A Tree Frog	(30)
18. Bamboo (I)	(32)
19. Bamboo (II)	(34)
20. Bats	(36)

21. Beavers (I)	(37)
22. Beavers (II)	(39)
23. Beavers (III)	(41)
24. Birds that "See" with Their Ears	(43)
25. Butterflies	(45)
26. Can Animals Tell Colours?	(47)
27. Can Frogs Breathe under Water?	(49)
28. Can Trees Talk?	(50)
29. Cats (I)	(52)
30. Cats (II)	(54)
31. Clouds and Fogs	(56)
32. Cobra	(58)
33. Coconuts	(60)
34. Crocodiles	(61)
35. Deserts (I)	(63)
36. Deserts (II)	(65)
37. Dogs and Colours	(67)
38. Dolphins	(69)
39. Double Sun	(71)
40. Do You Talk to Plants?	(72)
41. Earthquakes	(75)
42. Earthworms	(77)
43. Elephants (I)	(78)
44. Elephants (II)	(80)
45. Elephants (III)	(82)

46. Every Animal Is a Living Radiator	(84)
47. Fish Can Hear Sounds	(86)
48. Fish from the Deep	(88)
49. Fleas	(90)
50. Folk Weather Sayings	(92)
51. Foxes	(94)
52. Gorillas	(95)
53. Growing Plants Know Directions	(98)
54. How Do Animals Act towards Men?	(100)
55. How Do Bats Find Their Way in the Dark?	(101)
56. How Long Do Fishes Live?	(103)
57. How to Plant a Garden	(104)
58. How to Protect Animals	(106)
59. How to Transplant a Tree	(108)
60. Hurricanes	(109)
61. Icebergs	(111)
62. Jumping Mice	(113)
63. Koalas	(115)
64. Lightning	(117)
65. Man and the Sea	(119)
66. Men and Rats	(121)
67. Monkeys (I)	(123)
68. Monkeys (II)	(124)
69. Monkeys (III)	(126)
70. Mosquitoes	(128)

71. Musical Sands	(130)
72. Orangutans	(131)
73. Owls	(133)
74. Pigeons	(136)
75. Rainfall (I)	(137)
76. Rainfall (II)	(139)
77. Sea Otters	(140)
78. Sea Worms	(143)
79. Shaking Fruit Trees Can Be a Real Art	(144)
80. Sharks	(146)
81. Snakes	(148)
82. Spiders	(150)
83. St. Bernard Dogs	(152)
84. The Age of a Tree	(153)
85. The Animal and Its Speed	(155)
86. The Ant Lion	(157)
87. The Ants	(159)
88. The Baboon	(160)
89. The Baobab Tree	(162)
90. The Basenji	(163)
91. The Bee	(165)
92. The Blue Tits	(167)
93. The Brown Bear	(169)
94. The Cactus	(170)
95. The Camel	(172)

96. The Chimpanzee	(174)
97. The Colours of the Ocean	(177)
98. The Dodo	(179)
99. The Eskimo Sled Dog	(180)
100. The Fiddler Crab	(183)
101. The Flying Fox (I)	(185)
102. The Flying Fox (II)	(187)
103. The Garter Snake	(188)
104. The Green Turtles	(190)
105. The Ideal City Tree	(192)
106. The Important Service of Trees to Man	(193)
107. The Interesting Giraffe	(195)
108. The Jackdaw	(197)
109. The Jaguar	(199)
110. The Leopard	(200)
111. The Lion	(202)
112. The Ocean and the Atmosphere	(205)
113. The Opossum	(207)
114. The Ostrich	(208)
115. The Panda	(211)
116. The Peppered Moth	(213)
117. The Pintail Ducks	(215)
118. The Piranha	(217)
119. The Praying Mantis	(219)
120. The Racoon	(221)

121. The Rattlesnake	(222)
122. The Sea	(224)
123. The Sea Horse	(226)
124. The Useful Mice	(228)
125. The Water-breathing Rats	(229)
126. The White-headed Leaf Monkey	(231)
127. Thunderstorms	(233)
128. Tigers	(235)
129. Travelling Rats	(237)
130. Tree Rings and Rainfall	(239)
131. Turtles	(241)
132. Two Existing Species of Bison	(243)
133. Volcanoes	(245)
134. Water (I)	(246)
135. Water (II)	(248)
136. Weasels	(249)
137. Whales (I)	(252)
138. Whales (II)	(254)
139. Whales (III)	(256)
140. What Do We Do with the Fish?	(258)
141. Why Don't Birds Get Lost on Long Flights?	(259)
Key to the Tests	(262)
后 记	(264)



A Hawk

Could a hawk carry off a human body? Ever since the story of Sinbad the Sailor we've heard tales of human young being carried off by big birds. Sinbad, so the story goes, was carried by the Roc. The Roc — a huge bird — took Sinbad in its mouth and flew him off to the home in the mountains.

Sinbad and the Roc were only imaginary. But what about hawks? Can a hawk lift a baby?

Two scientists wanted to find out. They climbed up the high mountains and caught a hawk. They tied an eight-pound weight to its neck. Eight pounds, they felt, was about the right weight of a very young baby. Then they let the hawk loose. The hawk couldn't get off the ground.

1. This passage is about _____.
 - A. some tales of human beings carried off by big birds
 - B. the lifting power of hawks
 - C. two scientists
 - D. Sinbad the Sailor and the Roc
2. According to the writer, stories told of human babies being carried off by birds are _____.
 - A. unreal
 - B. some facts
 - C. very interesting
 - D. exciting
3. What conclusion(结论) can you draw from this passage?

- A. A hawk can't lift a weight.
B. We are sure of the story about Sinbad.
C. A hawk can't carry off a baby.
D. Tales are usually unreal.
4. The underlined word "imaginary" in the passage means "_____".
- A. the picture people saw in the sky
B. the photo people took at one time
C. the picture produced from ideas in people's mind
D. the real scenery
5. What was Sinbad?
- A. He worked as a sailor.
B. He always travelled on the sea.
C. He was a captain.
D. He used to catch seagulls.



Air

Air is a colorless, invisible gas that surrounds the earth. It is everywhere on the planet. An "empty" drinking glass and an "empty" room, to give two examples, are not really empty, each is filled with air. When the glass is filled with water, the water pushes the air out of the glass.

Air, as a gas, has no definite(一定的) shape, but, because it is matter, it takes up space. It is easy to prove that air

is something that takes up space. Stuff a dry handkerchief into the bottom of a glass so that it will not fall out when the glass is turned upside down. Push the upside-down glass, hold straight up and down into a jar of water till the glass is completely covered.

When the glass is taken out of the water, the handkerchief will be dry. The air inside the glass took up space and kept the water from coming in.

1. Why has air no definite shape?
 - A. Because it is matter.
 - B. Because it is a mixture.
 - C. Because it is a gas.
 - D. None of the above.
2. Since air is matter, it has _____.
 - A. both room and space
 - B. shape as well as weight
 - C. either shape or weight
 - D. both weight and volume
3. In the second paragraph, the underlined word "stuff" means "_____".
 - A. press tightly
 - B. stop
 - C. dip
 - D. put down
4. What the writer says about the experiment is _____.
 - A. done in the lab
 - B. made in the room
 - C. carried out in space
 - D. easily done



Algae

Algae(海藻) are plants which have no roots or leaves. They grow in wet places. You may have seen algae on top of the water in a pond or lake. Algae will even grow in fish bowls. Most algae are green or blue-green, but some are red, brown, or black.

Often, you buy algae at the drugstore(药店), but you do not know it. Some kinds of algae are used in making ice cream, toothpaste(牙膏), skin creams, and medicine.

Algae do not look or taste good, but they are high in food value. They can be made into flour. Men are working to make algae taste better. Then they can be used for food.

Tomorrow, more people will live in the world. They will need more food to eat. Algae are easy to grow. They may become an important food.

Algae can grow on spaceships. The men who go out into space may have their own algae gardens. Then they will not run out of(缺少) food.

1. What are algae like?

- A. They are plants living in water.
- B. They have no roots or leaves.
- C. They can grow everywhere.
- D. All of the above.

2. Algae may grow in _____.
A. fish bowls B. lakes
C. ponds D. All of the above.
3. What can algae be used for?
A. To make ice cream. B. To make skin creams.
C. To make food. D. All of the above.
4. What are men doing with algae?
A. They are growing them everywhere.
B. They are making them into many kinds of food.
C. They are making them taste better.
D. They are destroying them everywhere.
5. Which of the following is NOT right?
A. There are many kinds of algae.
B. Algae are hard to grow.
C. Algae will become an important food in the future.
D. Algae have different colorus.



An Ape

An ape(类人猿) has a larger brain than any other animal except man, though it is much smaller than a man's brain. Apes all belong to the hot countries of the world — tropical(热带的) Africa and Southeast Asia.

The gorilla(大猩猩) is the largest of the apes. He is as tall as six feet when standing upright. Many people think that

gorillas are very fierce(凶猛的). They are often described as standing upright like a man, beating their fists(拳头) and roaring(吼叫). In their home, in the forests of Central Africa, however, they are not at all like this. They are peaceful animals and never use their great strength unless attacked. Even then, they retreat(撤退) if they can.

Gorillas have black faces and long, black, hairy coats. They feed during the day on plants and fruit. At night the old male(雄性动物) often sleeps on the ground at the foot of a tree, while the others each make a sleeping platform in the tree by bending the leafy branches. Besides this, gorillas climb trees very seldom.

1. Apes live in _____.
 - A. different parts of the world
 - B. the cold countries
 - C. South America and Africa
 - D. the countries of Africa and Southeast Asia
2. An ape's brain is _____.
 - A. as large as a man's brain
 - B. a lot smaller than a man's brain
 - C. larger than that of any other animal including man
 - D. a lot larger than a man's brain
3. A gorilla is about six feet tall when he _____.
 - A. stands on his legs
 - B. stands on his arms
 - C. roars
 - D. uses his great strength

4. All gorillas live on _____.
A. vegetables B. leaves and grass
C. plants and fruit D. rice
5. During the night gorillas usually sleep in trees except _____.
A. the old female(雌性的) gorilla
B. the old male gorilla
C. the young gorillas up to six years old
D. the baby gorillas



Animals and Aestivation

As winter draws near, many of the cold-blooded animals hibernate till spring comes. And everybody knows they will be awake months later, crawling and walking around and looking for food.

But do you also know that some animals are used to a summer sleep, which is called aestivation(夏眠)? Most animals are active during the summer, singing and dancing freely, the aestivation animals, however, will have a long sleep in a cool place to escape the drought(旱灾) and sweltering(酷热的) summer days.

In Southeast Africa, there is a kind of porcupine(豪猪) whose body is covered with sharp stings(刺). This creature usually eats earthworms(蚯蚓) as its main food. As the hot days